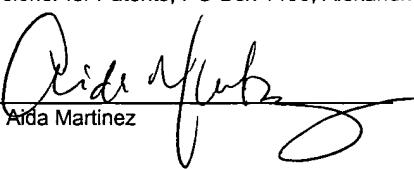


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Date: March 4, 2004

By:

Aida Martinez



PATENT
Docket No. GC634-2



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Bron et al.) Group Art Unit: 1636
Serial No.: 09/954,737) Examiner: Leffers, Gerald G., Jr.
Filed: September 17, 2001)
For: Twin-Arginine Translocation in *Bacillus*)

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED NOVEMBER 5, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 5, 2003, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be made. A marked-up version of the Specification's replacement paragraphs pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b) (beginning on page 2), as well as a complete marked-up set of the Claims follows, indicating the status of each Claim (beginning on page 6). None of the amendments to the Claims is intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended Claims within the meaning of *Festo*¹. The Remarks begin on page 8.

Enclosed as Attachment I for the Examiner's convenience is a copy of the Preliminary Amendment previously sent February 6, 2002 with submission of the sequence listing. Applicants wish to ensure that this amendment is entered.

¹ *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, No. 95-1066, 2000 WL 1753646 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).